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October 15, 2019

NEWS RELEASE

16th Case of West Nile Virus Confirmed in El Paso

EL PASO, TEXAS – The City's 16th case of West Nile virus involves a man in his early 60's. Despite having underlying medical conditions, public health officials say he was released from the hospital and is recovering at home.

"The community needs to take into account that for most people a mosquito bite is a nuisance, but for others it can be very serious if the patient has medical conditions that impair their ability to fight infection and if the mosquito is carrying a disease like West Nile," said Fernando Gonzalez, Lead Epidemiologist. "As long as we still have mosquitoes biting in El Paso, the threat of disease continues to be present."

The following is a table of the cases reported to the Department of Public Health so far this season:

	1.	Female	Late 70's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	2.	Female	Late 70's	Underlying Medical Conditions
Deceased	3.	Female	Early 50's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	4.	Female	Early 30's	No Underlying Medical Conditions
	5.	Male	Late 30's	No Underlying Medical Conditions
Deceased	6.	Male	Early 80's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	7.	Male	Early 30's	No Underlying Medical Conditions
	8.	Female	Mid 70's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	9.	Male	Early 80's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	10.	Female	Mid 70's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	11.	Male	Early 80's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	12.	Female	Early 30's	No Underlying Medical Conditions
	13.	Male	Late 80's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	14.	Male	Early 60's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	15.	Male	Early 80's	Underlying Medical Conditions
NEW	16.	Male	Early 60's	Underlying Medical Conditions

The best way to avoid exposure to mosquito-borne diseases is to practice the "four Ds":

- **DEET** - Use insect repellents that contain DEET when outdoors.
- **DRESS** - Wear long sleeves, long pants, and socks when outdoors.
- **DUSK and DAWN** – Although mosquitoes associated with other diseases such as Zika can be active throughout the day; residents should take extra care during peak mosquito biting hours (from dusk to dawn) or consider avoiding outdoor activities during these times.
- **DRAIN** – Drain standing water from flowerpots, gutters, buckets, pool covers, pet water dishes, and birdbaths.

You can also mosquito-proof your home by installing or repairing screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out. To report standing water or mosquito breeding call 3-1-1. Please share - [Mosquito Prevention PSA](#)

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Media Contact: Soraya Ayub Palacios
Lead Public Affairs Coordinator
915.212.1040 or 915.781.4386

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